



# bethany home/grand canal flood control project

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## project introduction

This is the seventh in a series of newsletters to be distributed by the Flood Control District of Maricopa County (District) as part of the Bethany Home/Grand Canal Flood Control (BH/GC) Project. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform you of the latest developments in the BH/GC Project and provide you with a project update regarding design, construction, and property acquisition.

Through a series of studies, the District has identified areas of significant flooding within the West Valley. These areas include downtown Glendale and the properties north of the Grand Canal from Indian School Road to Bethany Home Road. This flooding also affects several thousand residential properties and businesses between Grand Avenue and the Grand Canal, in Glendale and Phoenix. Over 745 houses are in a federally delineated floodplain, and many are required to pay annual flood insurance.

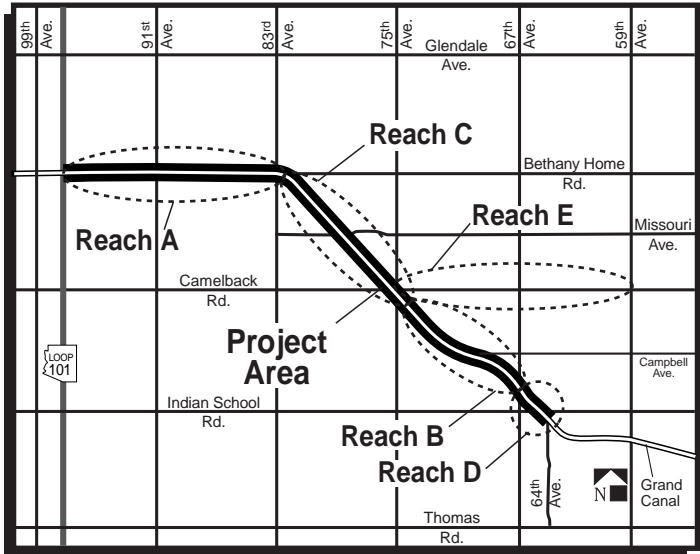
## project background

The District and the Cities of Glendale and Phoenix have partnered on the BH/GC Project, which is approximately five miles in length and goes through agricultural, residential, and equestrian properties. The project area from Camelback Road north is in Glendale, while the area south of Camelback Road is in Phoenix. Several channel cross-sections have been developed to best fit flood control, neighborhood, and community needs. Opportunities to incorporate equestrian and multiuse trails throughout this flood control project were also implemented as part of an overall Corridor Master Plan.

As a result of the multiuse opportunities in Glendale, the Glendale Parks and Recreation Department, in association with the District, has developed a recreation master plan referred to as the Grand Canal Linear Park (GCLP). The GCLP will consist of open grass areas, multiuse trails, equestrian trails, and trailheads that provide public access to the trail. The trailheads will also be used to identify entrances to the GCLP.

In addition to these amenities common to the BH/GC Project, the Glendale Parks and Recreation Department is planning to construct an equestrian staging area south of Bethany Home Road near 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, a plaza at the entrance to the GCLP at 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Camelback Road, parking for the newly constructed fully-accessible handicap playground, and expanded trailheads that include ramadas, picnic tables, water fountains, and improved landscaping. The trail system will also connect to the future Western Area Regional Park, an 80-acre park that will be located on the northeast corner of Bethany Home Road and 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.

During the predesign phase of the project, the City of Phoenix elected to implement a trail corridor concept. In Phoenix, the BH/GC corridor is not considered a formal park, but a greenbelt corridor for trail and informal recreational uses. The preliminary construction plans for this segment of the project reflect this concept.



Project Area

## current project developments

For design and construction purposes, the project was divided into five segments. One segment, referred to as Reach A, extends along Bethany Home Road from SR 101 to the east side of the Grand Canal, east of 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. The construction of Reach A will be completed by June of 2004.

Two additional segments are currently in preliminary design. Reach B extends along the Grand Canal from 73<sup>rd</sup> to 67<sup>th</sup> Avenues within Phoenix. Reach C connects Reaches A and B and extends along the Grand Canal from east of 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue in Glendale and Phoenix. The construction plan for these areas will be included in the items presented at the project's next public meeting on April 7, 2004.

The final segments are Reaches D and E. Reach D extends along the Grand Canal from 67<sup>th</sup> to 64<sup>th</sup> Avenues in Phoenix. Reach E implements the Camelback Road Storm Drain element of the project, which runs along Camelback Road from 59<sup>th</sup> to 75<sup>th</sup> Avenues. Refer to the schedule below for the timing of design and construction for these reaches.

A Project Aesthetic Advisory Committee (PAAC) was formed to facilitate public involvement and oversight during the design phase. The committee includes neighborhood leaders, property owners, and citizens who live adjacent to the Grand Canal. The committee is holding meetings to review the concept plan developed by the design team and agencies. In general, the committee approves of the concept plan, which has been implemented as part of the preliminary design.

## project schedule

Reach	Project Segment	Year											
		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008					
A	97 <sup>th</sup> Avenue to 83 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue												
B	73 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue to 67 <sup>th</sup> Avenue												
C	83 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue to 73 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue												
D	67 <sup>th</sup> Avenue to 64 <sup>th</sup> Avenue												
E	Camelback Road Storm Drain												

## project segments

The project was divided into segments based on the characteristics of the proposed flood control facilities and adjacent land use. Below is a brief description and status of each segment.

### ■ Reach A – Loop 101 to 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenue

This segment consists of a grass-lined open channel and includes a 7-acre detention basin, two new vehicular bridges at 91<sup>st</sup> and 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenues, two box culverts under the Grand Canal, two pedestrian/equestrian bridges over the Grand Canal, multiuse concrete trail and equestrian paths, seven park trailheads, landscaping, lighting, and irrigation systems. Many of the structural elements include aesthetic treatments. Several of the recreation elements of the GCLP Master Plan have also been incorporated. The construction of this segment is anticipated to be completed in late May or early June of this year.



**91<sup>st</sup> Avenue Bridge over BH/GC Project**

### ■ Reach B – 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue

An 18-acre detention basin is required within this portion of the project because of the significant amount of floodwater that accumulates within this neighborhood. This long, narrow detention basin is currently planned to be grass-lined and includes a multiuse concrete trail, landscaping, and irrigation systems. Two pedestrian crossings of the flood control facility are proposed at 71<sup>st</sup> and 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenues. Property acquisition for this segment is complete. The District is currently removing the remaining homes within this segment, and construction is scheduled to begin in early 2005.



**Artist's Vision of Completed Reach B**

### ■ Reach C – 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue

To carry floodwater, an underground culvert system will be constructed north of the Grand Canal, from just east of 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The eastern portion of this segment, from Camelback Road to approximately 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, is the only portion of the project that will be constructed as a concrete-lined channel. One existing residence near 79<sup>th</sup> Avenue may be acquired to construct the project. This segment of the BH/GC includes the GCLP, which is planned to have open grass areas, a pedestrian bridge, a multiuse concrete trail, picnic and ramada areas, four trailheads, an entry plaza, parking for the fully handicap-accessible playground, access into the future Western Area Regional Park, landscaping, lighting, and irrigation systems. Many of the structural elements include aesthetic treatments. Most of the recreation elements of the Corridor Master Plan have also been incorporated. The construction of this segment is anticipated to begin in 2006.

### ■ Reach D – 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 64<sup>th</sup> Avenue

An underground culvert system will be constructed within the existing alley between the Grand Canal and the residences. Pedestrian under-crossings are planned at 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Indian School Road. This segment is scheduled for final design in 2006, with construction in 2007.

### ■ Reach E – Camelback Road Storm Drain (59<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue)

The Camelback Road Storm Drain is scheduled to be designed in 2007 with construction in 2008.

## public meeting

A public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 7, 2004, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Christ Presbyterian Church, 6440 West Indian School Road in Phoenix. The purpose of this public meeting is to provide information regarding the final design of Reaches B and C. Exhibits will display the

status of the current design, and preliminary construction plans will be available for public review. The project team will be available to discuss the project and answer your questions.

Persons may request special accommodations such as sign-language interpretation by contacting Michael Book, Logan Simpson Design Inc., 51 West Third Street, Suite 450, Tempe, Arizona 85281 (phone: 480-967-1343 or fax: 480-966-9232). To arrange for accommodations, please make requests as early as possible.

## contact

If you would like additional information, please visit the project Web site at [www.fcd.maricopa.gov](http://www.fcd.maricopa.gov), click on "District Projects," then click on "Bethany Home Outfall Channel." If you have any questions or wish to provide your input on the project, please contact:

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**Project information and updates are available 24 hours a day:**

**Web site:** [www.fcd.maricopa.gov](http://www.fcd.maricopa.gov)